REMARKS

INTRODUCTION:

In accordance with the foregoing, claims 1 and 11 have been amended. No new matter has been submitted.

Claims 1-31 are pending and under consideration. Claims 1 and 11 are independent claims under consideration. Reconsideration of the claims in view of the following remarks is respectfully requested.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. §102 & §103:

Claims 1-3, 5, 11-13, 15, 21, 30, and 31 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,911,008 to Niikura et al. ("Niikura"). Claims 4, 6-9, 14, 16-19, 22, 23, 26 and 27 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Niikura in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,104,441 to Wee et al. ("Wee"). Claims 10, 20, 24, 25, 28 and 29 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Niikura in view of Wee and further in view of Applicants' Admitted Prior Art ("AAPA"). Reconsideration of the rejections is respectfully requested.

Independent claims 1 and 11 have been slightly amended to clarify the meaning of claimed features. By way of review and only as an example, amended independent claim 1 sets forth:

> a color temperature estimation section to estimate a color
> temperature of the compressed video image using the color
> temperature of the generated DC video image.

The Office Action indicates that Niikura illustrates all the features of independent claim 1 at FIG. 15, items 88, 1501, and 1502. Applicants respectfully disagree and submit that each of the above interpretations of Niikura is incorrect.

Based on independent claim 1 as recited above, a color temperature estimation section uses the color temperature of the DC video image which is generated from a direct current (DC) video image extraction section. Then, the color temperature estimation section estimates a color temperature of the compressed video image using the color temperature of the generated DC video image. Accordingly, at least the color temperature of the DC video image is required for color temperature estimation.

With regards to items 1501 and 1502 of FIG. 15 of Niikura, Niikura sets forth a DC component extraction process to obtain a DC component intensity image as described below.

> ... First, a DC component extraction processing 1501 is applied to the I picture sequence 86 in order to obtain a DC component intensity image 1502 from the intensity component in the DC component of the i block (col. 18, lines 17-20). ...

Referring to the above paragraph, it is apparent that Niikura merely describes obtaining the DC component intensity image from the intensity component in the DC component of the i block, and does not disclose a color temperature corresponding to the color temperature estimation section of present claim 1. That is, since Niikura discloses nothing about a color temperature, Niikura cannot reasonably be relied upon to disclose "estima[ting] the color temperature of the compressed video image," as claimed.

Claim 1 of present application further recites at least the following:

> A system to estimate a color temperature of a compressed video image and *change the color temperature of the compressed video image* ... (emphasis added).

Referring to the above emphasized feature of claim 1, the color temperature estimation section estimates a color temperature of the compressed video image so that the system changes the color temperature of the compressed video image."

With respect to the above-recited feature, the Office Action asserts that Niikura discloses "chang[ing] the color temperature of the compressed video image. Applicants respectfully disagree.

With regard to 1505 in FIG. 15 of Niikura, Niikura sets forth a prominence detection filter processing as described in part below.

> ... Here, however, the difference can also be caused by a camera or imaging target movement, so that such a noise is removed by applying a prominence detection filter processing 1505. ...

Referring to the text above, Niikura merely describes a prominence detection filter processing applied in order to remove noise that may be caused by a camera or imaging target movement. In particular, Niikura is directed to a scheme for detecting shot boundaries in the compressed video data, and obtaining the difference between two adjacent frames. Since neither this difference nor the removal of noise is related to the color temperature, Niikura cannot reasonably be relied upon to disclose changing the color temperature of the compressed video image. Niikura, thus, fails to describe all of the above-recited features.

In addition, the Office Action fails to establish that <u>Wee</u> or <u>AAPA</u>, alone or in combination, compensate for the noted deficiencies of <u>Niikura</u>. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that independent claim 1 patentably distinguishes over <u>Niikura</u>, <u>Wee</u> and <u>AAPA</u>, and should be allowable for at least the above-mentioned reasons. Since similar features recited by independent claim 11, with potentially differing scope and breadth, are not suggested or disclosed by the references, the rejection should be withdrawn and claim 11 also allowed.

Further, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 2-10 and 12-30, which variously depend from independent claims 1 and 11, should be allowable for at least the same reasons as claims 1 and 11, as well as for the additional features recited therein.

CONCLUSION:

There being no further outstanding objections or rejections, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. An early action to that effect is courteously solicited.

Finally, if there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to these matters.

If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

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